

NOTES ON THE GENUS *PARAVITEX* (VERBENACEAE)

Harold N. Moldenke

PARAVITEX Fletcher, Kew Bull. Misc. Inf. 1937: 74, fig. 2. 1937.

Bibliography: Fletcher, Kew Bull. Misc. Inf. 1937: 71 & 73--75, fig. 2 (1937) and 1938: 406, 409, & 437. 1938; Mold., Known Geogr. Distrib. Verbenac., ed. 1, 60 & 97. 1942; Hill & Salisb., Ind. Kew. Suppl. 10: 161 & 251. 1947; H. N. & A. L. Mold., Pl. Life 2: 34. 1948; Mold., Known Geogr. Distrib. Verbenac., ed. 2, 138 & 192. 1948; Angely, Cat. Estat. Gen. Bot. Fan. 17: 5. 1956; Mold., R sum  178 & 464. 1959; F. A. Barkley, List Ord. Fam. Anthoph. 76 & 194. 1965; Airy Shaw in J. C. Willis, Dict. Flow. Pl., ed. 7, 833. 1966; Rouleau, Guide Ind. Kew. 140 & 352. 1970; Mold., Fifth Summ. 1: 297 (1971) and 2: 758 & 897. 1971; Airy Shaw in J. C. Willis, Dict. Flower. Pl., ed. 8, 856. 1973; Mukherjee & Chanda, Trans. Bose Res. Inst. 41: 40, 42, & 47. 1978.

Climbing shrubs; leaves decussate-opposite, simple, deciduous, exstipulate, marginally entire; inflorescence cymose, the cymes di- or trichotomous, arranged in loose terminal panicles; flowers perfect; calyx inferior, gamosepalous, the rim truncate or sinuate-lobulate; corolla gamopetalous, zygomorphic, the limb bilabiate, the upper (posterior) lip bifid, the lower (anterior) lip trifold with the middle lobe much longer than the others; stamens 4, inserted in the corolla-tube, hardly exerted; filaments basally sparsely pubescent; anthers dorsifixed, longitudinally dehiscent; pistil single, bicarpellary; stigma terminal, bifid; ovary superior, compound, 4-celled, each cell 1-ovulate; fruit drupaceous, globose or obovoid, 4-celled but 1-seeded by the abortion of 3 ovules and cells.

Type species: *Paravitex siamica* Fletcher.

This is, as far as is now known, a monotypic genus endemic to Thailand. It is obviously closely related to *Vitex* Tourn. Fletcher (1937) notes that "The two characters which clearly separate it from this genus are the simple leaves and the structure of the fruit. The ovary of *Vitex* is normally 4-celled and 4-ovuled., although the number varies from 2 to 4. *Paravitex* differs in that, although the ovary is 4-celled and 4-ovuled, only one of the cells develops. Thus the drupe contains one fertile cell with one seed and three seedless rudimentary cells." In these characters the genus is also reminiscent of the arborescent often unifoliolate genus *Teijsmanniodendron*

PARAVITEX SIAMICA Fletcher, Kew Bull. Misc. Inf. 1937: 73--75, fig. 2. 1937.

Bibliography: see that of the genus as a whole (above).

Illustrations: Fletcher, Kew Bull. Misc. Inf. 1937: 73, fig. 2. 1937.

A scandent shrub; branchlets at first tetragonal, later terete,

glabrous, bearing a few amber-colored glands and numerous lenticels; leaves simple; petioles 0.5--1 cm. long, sparsely pubescent and glandular; leaf-blades chartaceous, ovate or elliptic, 3--8 cm. long, 2--4 cm. wide, brownish above and gray-brown beneath in drying, apically acute or obtuse to obtusely apiculate, marginally entire, basally somewhat attenuate or often rounded, glabrous on both surfaces except for the slightly pubescent venation, with sessile amber-colored glands beneath; midrib conspicuous above, prominent beneath; secondaries 7--9 pairs, prominent beneath, parallel, arcuately joined within the margins; inflorescence terminal, 10--22 cm. long, basally 6--10 cm. wide, sparsely spinulose, pubescent, glandular; bracts 1--3 mm. long; calyx 2--5 mm. long, glabrous, the rim truncate or sinuate-lobulate, glandulose; corolla hypocrateriform, externally glabrous and glandular, the tube about 5.5 mm. long, internally glabrous except for the lightly pubescent stamen-insertion area, the limb bilabiate, the posterior lip 2 mm. long and bilobed, the anterior (inferior) lip 5 mm. long, 3 lobed, the lobes apically rounded; stamens 4, inserted 2 mm. above the base of the corolla-tube; filaments 5--7 mm. long; anthers 0.75 mm. long; style 7.5 mm. long; stigma apically bilobed; ovary globose, 1 mm. long and wide, glabrous, apically glandulose; fruit obovoid, about 7 mm. long, glabrous, rugose in drying, apically sparsely glandulose.

The species is based on *Kerr 7002* from riverbanks at Supan Dom Bang, at about 20 m. altitude, Nakawn Chaisi, Thailand. Fletcher cites also *Kerr 19329*, *Marcan 1004*, and *Put 2573* from waste ground and evergreen forests along a stream, at an altitude of 6 m. to "under 50 m.", from Prachinburi and Ayuthia provinces in Thailand. Nothing further is known to me of this species.

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NOTES ON THE GENUS *PETRAEOVITEX* (VERBENACEAE)

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In view of Munir's excellent review of this genus in 1965, it would be presumptuous on my part now to continue on the detailed monograph of the genus which it was my intention to publish and on which work was begun in 1931. Still, the bibliographic and other notes which have been assembled by my wife and myself over these many years probably should be placed on record. This is the 59th genus so treated by me since the beginning of this series in 1930. The herbarium acronyms employed herein are the same as I have used in all previous installments in this series of notes in this journal since 1931 and are fully explained in my Fifth Summary (1971), pages 795 to 801, and elsewhere.